

Human Body is Dharmakshetra

To annihilate the evil effects of Adharma

The Divine Energy mercifully takes Janma

Propagating & Fostering the Sanctity of Karma

Which should be directed on the Path of Dharma

With Continuous Springs of Divine Love i.e. Prema

Janma, Karma, Dharma and Prema are in Dharmakshetra

For human body is Kshetra wherein we must plant Dharma

So that man can attain Moksha, the fruit of Mama*

^{*(}Srimad Bhagavad Geeta starts from the word 'Dharma' and ends with the word 'Mama')

The Seed is Sown.... Divine Mission in Mumbai Begins



With Koti Pranaams at His Divine Lotus Feet

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DHARMAKSHETRA AS A TIRTH

'Dharmakshetra', a Divine Lotus emerged from the uneven, hilly and slum area is a manifestation of Divine Sankalp and Love of His Holiness Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba, who laid its foundation on 3 November 1967 in the City of Mumbai and declared that it would be ready on 12 May 1968. His declaration turned out to be a Gross manifested Truth on the eve of the First World Conference of Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation in May 1968.

Dharmakshetra has a Divine Destiny to fulfill the Divine Mission.

It stands tall over a hillock as a beacon for mankind to embark upon the path of Dharma or Righteous Conduct. The Lotus shaped structure beckons man to embark upon sacred action and be like a lotus which blossoms and blooms in the unclean water of the pond but is still untouched by the dirt around.

Dharmakshetra symbolises the core message of Bhagavan to Mankind, "to embark upon Dharma, experience Prashanti and regale in Paramanand". Dharmakshetra signifies the mystical journey from 'I to We', from 'We to He', under His Supreme Guidance. This journey is from 'Without to Within', from 'Untruth to Truth', from 'Kurukshetra-the battlefield of Sensual pleasures to Dharmakshetra-the Realm of Righteousness'".

Bhagavan has equated Dharmakshetra with the sacred shrines of Kedarnath and Badrinath. He visited Badrinath over 40 years back and brought back its ancient glory. If you visit these two pilgrimage centres in the lap of the Himalayas, you will find a tremendous contrast between the two.

Kedarnath shrine (11750 ft. above msl) with the backdrop of Kedardome, has a unique ambience which envelopes you with the feeling of Vairagya, detachment. From here the Pandavas took the route to body renunciation. From here, after his life's mission was fulfilled, Adi Shankar marched towards his heavenly abode. The feeling of detachment and renunciation that overcomes you cannot be described; it has to be experienced.

Pilgrims are therefore advised to visit Badrinath (10,500 ft. above msl) after the pilgrimage to Kedarnath. In Badrinath worldly affairs submerge you. Material attractions (Maya) are strong here. In the backdrop of Nara-Narayan peaks, Badrinath brings us back into Samsara, with emphasis on rites and rituals. Although the two shrines are only a few kilometers away as the crow flies, Kedarnath has to be reached after a walk of several kilometers; on the other hand, Badrinath is easily accessible by road.

Swami has often described Mumbai as the stomach of India. Prime needs of the body have to be met before the aspirations of the soul become overpowering. Swami wants us to experience both - Vairagya and materialism. What better place can there be than Dharmakshetra in the midst of the financial capital of India. Swami has said that both wings are needed by the bird when it soars high in the sky. The freedom of the sky is not for the timid; those who seek balance between worldly and spiritual life, Educare and Education, Arth & Kama with Dharma & Moksha, will find Dharmakshetra an ideal practice ground for Sadhana. As the Kathopanishad declares, 'The path of Sadhana is like walking on a razor's edge.' Dharmakshetra is meant to provide an in depth experience and insight into practical spirituality. Swami expects from us 'Head in Forest, Hands in Society.'

Dharmakshetra as a Tirth Kshetra is an idea Bhagavan gave several years back. It is for all of us to understand and decide how we fulfill this Divine injunction and be worthy of His Grace. A Tirth is a holy place from where Divine vibrations constantly emanate. Those sacred vibrations touch the conscience of the individual who visits it with reverence. Thereby, the individual gets a sense of fulfillment, peace dawns, and it raises his or her level of 'Awareness'.

Dharmakshetra is a holy place because it is Bhagavan's Abode. Here, over the past 36 years, He came and lived in Sathya Deep and charged it by powerful vibrations. Hence, the central place, the sanctum sanctorum from where these holy vibrations can be carried out is Sathya Deep. It is up to the individual Sadhaks (aspirants) to tune in with the Divine vibrations to bring about a quantum raise in personal Sadhana and consciousness. Dharmakshetra is a Divine Gift of the Lord to all those who come here.

Naturally, we have to lay down specific rules and regulations for the above purpose, and these should be strictly followed. Any sincere Sadhak can participate in this sacred endeavour; there is no high or low in class or caste, age or reputation.

The Bal Vikas Movement was born at Dharmakshetra in Mumbai during Sri Sathya Sai Baba's visit and it was initiated in 1969 by Sri Sathya Sai Baba in India, for incorporating human values in children.

Bhagavan Baba started the Sathya Sai Vidya Mandir (school) here 35 years back. With the model of Prashanti Nilayam in mind, the students have to be fully involved and equipped with the Divine life style, and encouraged to take over Dharmakshetra activities, especially in the Sathya Deep surroundings. This effort has begun. Effort will be made to promote self-confidence in more and more students. An exposure in programmes of Meditation, Devotional Group Singing and Prayers, seva and cultural activities will give them self-satisfaction leading to self-sacrifice. In this process, parents are active participants. Thus the first priority would be to promote Sadhana of the Vidya Mandir students so that they are equipped to play an important role in future.

Another significant decision is to enrich the physical ambiance of Dharmakshetra from the entrance gate to provide an environment of tranquility, peace, cheerfulness and quietness. As a pilgrimage centre, Dharmakshetra is already attracting regularly an increasing number of visitors. It is necessary that they experience the pull of divine vibrations visibly displayed through cleanliness, beauty and courtesy.

Always in the past, with the Blessing of Bhagavan, Dharmakshetra had symbolised the journey from I to We to Him; as one enters the gate, one becomes aware that good health is the first step to spirituality. The Sri Sathya Sai Medical Centre on the left near the gate is symbol of this awareness. Further up the road, one comes face to face with the huge mural of the Sun God astride on the chariot pulled by seven horses. Sun is our immediate divine symbol, the creator of Prana in all of us.

As one moves further up, the artistically placed Ganesh statue creates pleasant vibrations in us. Our journey is well begun. Peace descends on us. On the left is the prayer hall, Shanti Deep, inaugurated by Bhagavan on 12 May 1969. Daily Bhajans are organised here, morning and evening.

Further on the left, behind Shanti Deep is the Manav Abhyuday Kshetra. When Bhagavan Baba laid the foundation 20 years ago, little did we know that this educational complex will house three distinctive units - the Sri Sathya Sai Vidya Mandir (Primary and Secondary Schools), the Institute of Sathya Sai Education, and yet to be inaugurated Pragnya Deep, the permanent Bal Vikas Archives

Exposition. These are destined to play a very crucial role in future in promoting the Mission of Bhagavan Baba. The complex also houses Gyan Deep in which regular organisational meetings and training courses are held.

With peace in the heart and understanding of Sri Sathya Sai Educare in the Head, we proceed to the sanctum sanctorum of Dharmakshetra - Sathya Deep. Truth is only One and the Sarva-Dharma-Aikya Stupa, which stands adjacent, proclaims this truth. The Meditation Center in Sathya Deep is the final destination to experience this Unity. Unity is Divinity. The Unity Monument coming up in South Mumbai with Divine Blessings will radiate this message throughout the world. Thus, Dharmakshetra prepares us physically, mentally and spiritually for Love in Action. As we descend the hillock, carrying Divine radiations within our heart, we are prepared to enter the social milleu.

The third important step we have to take is to gear organisational activities and prepare members to support individual awakening. Dharmakshetra has to be vibrant with educational and spiritual activities – Veda Chanting and Meditation Classes, Study Circles, Spiritual Discourses, and Programmes by school students, training courses for teachers, gurus and educationists. Personal Sadhana has to coincide with community goals. This, the journey of man from "I to We", is bound to fulfill the expectations of Bhagavan Baba in establishing Dharmakshetra in the heart of Mumbai.

The uniqueness of Dharmakshetra lies in the fact that it awards every soul an opportunity to embark on a 'Spiritual Journey'.

On 12 May 1969, the first anniversary day of the Dharmakshetra, Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba said,

"Dharmakshetra has a great part to play. It is in Bombay, which is the stomach of Bharat. The Himalayas are the Head and the Kanyakumari is the Feet. When the stomach is inefficient, the entire body suffers the consequences. So keep the Dharmakshetra efficient and strong. Do not allow it to degenerate into a Kurukshetra; let not friction and fraction raise their heads here. Let the high ideals of Dharma be upheld here. This is the real Seva I expect from you and through you. If this is done, our land will have peace and security."

How true are the above words in the light of the prevailing selfish attitudes rampant here in the field of party politics, education, media publicity, medical profession, corporate captaincy and even in sports activities where humans are behaving like animals on the sports ground!

Truly speaking, Dharmakshetra in Mumbai has become the Tirthkshetra for the benefit of the entire humanity. Here there is a blend of Educare, Medicare, Sociocare and Spiritual learning, through a divine ambience contributing to the development of five basic, fundamental and inseparable human values viz. Sathya (Truth), Dharma (Right Conduct), Shanti (Peace), Prem (Love) and Ahinsa (Nonviolence).

Even a casual round over the campus of the Dharmakshetra will not only magnetise or electrify, but also divinize the age-old Soul (Atma) embedded in the Body (Deh) covered with Kama (Lust), Krodh (Anger), Mada (Ego), Moh (Attachment) and Lobh (Greed), generated from Trigunas- Satva (Purity), Rajas (Passion) and Tamas (Inertia).

"All our Karmas (deeds) have to ever tread and traverse only with the Realm of Dharma and with the Awareness of Brahman. Our hearts have to be transformed into a Dharmakshetra and the Sathya Deep (the Divine Consciousness) should be made to shine in its full glow and effulgence in the very niche of our hearts. This is the holy message of Dharmakshetra".



SRI SATHYA SAI'S MISSIONS HATCHED IN THE HIRANYAGARBH OF MUMBAI

His Holiness Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba first visited Mumbai (then Bombay) in the year 1967. Almost every year thereafter – till date, Sri Sathya Sai Baba has blessed the city of Mumbai and laid the seeds of spiritual wisdom in the hearts and minds of one and all in this city, which is not only the cultural and commercial capital of the nation or one of the most populous cities in the world but also an important centre of international commerce, industry, education and culture serving the world with the strong base of secularism. Mumbai has played an integral role in navigating India's evolution as an industrial superpower.



Bhagavan Baba on the stage with Late Dr. B. Ramakrishna Rao, Former Governor of Uttar Pradesh at Sardar Patel Stadium, Mumbai.

As Mumbai shaped the destiny of nation, Sri Sathya Sai chose Mumbai to shape the destiny of mankind by using the city as a base to spread His messages of Love All, Serve All' and 'Help Ever, Hurt Never', to the world through the forum of Dharmakshetra. He did so by deciding to establish an international centre in Mumbai.

As per His Divine Determination (Sankalp), 'DHARMAKSHETRA', His Divine Abode was built in a record time of only 108 days on a hillock at Mahakali Caves Road at Andheri (East), Mumbai, India which is a spot specially selected by Him. On 12 May 1968, DHARMAKSHETRA was inaugurated by His Divine Hands.

Primarily, the aim of establishing Dharmakshetra was to inculcate, nurture, and nourish the five pillars of the society viz. Sathya: Truth, Dharma: Righteousness, Shanti: Peace, Prem: Love, and Ahimsa: Non-Violence. Shaped in the form of a majestic lotus, Sri Sathya Sai's Divine Abode inspires all to be loving and unsullied by the surroundings just like the lotus which retains its beauty, purity and charm despite being born in muddy waters.

Baba's visits to Mumbai have been extremely important as Dharmakshetra became the launch pad for all the initiatives that He propagated. Several landmark decisions have been taken over the years during His visits.

Historic Decisions

A number of historic decisions were taken during His visits to Mumbai and each one of them culminated into fruition, in record time. These decisions led to the establishment of important milestones in the Divine Plan.

Some of which are:

Setting up of the

Sri Sathya Sai University, Prashanti Nilayam

Sri Sathya Sai Sanathana Sanskruti Museum, Prashanti Nilayam

Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Medical Sciences, Prashanti Nilayam

Chaitanya Jyoti Museum, Prashanti Nilayam

Beautification of Sri Sathya Sai Colleges:

Prashanti Nilayam, Bangalore and Anantpur

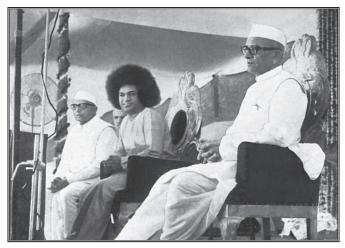
Launching of Easwaramma Mobile Medical Vans:

Mumbai and Prashanti Nilayam (Extending free of cost medical services to he needy)

Commencement of Training of Teachers in:

Education in Human Values, Mumbai

DHARMAKSHETRA INSTITUTIONS AND INITIATIVES THE FIRST WORLD CONFERENCE OF SRI SATHYA SAI ORGANISATIONS (SSSO)



The first world conference of Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations was a landmark event. Swami is seen on the dais with Sri Morarji Desai (Formar Prime Minister of India) in 1968

The First World Conference of the Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations was held in Mumbai during Baba's Divine Visit in 1967. This was inaugurated by the late Shri Morarji Desai, former Prime Minister of India in the Divine presence of Baba and in the revered presence of Kulpati K. M. Munshi, the founder of the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan.

This was a landmark World Conference which laid the foundations for the mammoth banyan tree viz. Super structure of the Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations which today very actively operates not only in all the states of India, but also in more than 200 countries of the world.

Birth of Sri Sathya Sai Bal Vikas Programme

Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, the then Hon'ble President of India while presiding over as the Chief Guest at the Convocation of the Sri Sathya Sai University, had once mentioned -

"Although the Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning had been established in the year 1981, the seeds of imparting education to the children had been put in place by Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba when He started the Sri Sathya Sai Bal Vikas Programme way back in 1969".

How true! The Bal Vikas Movement was born at Dharmakshetra in Mumbai during Sri Sathya Sai Baba's visit and it was initiated in 1969 by Sri Sathya Sai Baba in India, for incorporating human values in children.

The Bal Vikas programme is an informal programme conducted outside the schools. It is the expansion and development of the faculties and personality of the child. The main objective is to make the children in their formative years, aware of their intrinsic divine nature and potential while living a life full of righteous conduct and selfless service.

The framework of the Bal Vikas movement rests on an integral relationship between teachers, parents and children. It is a nine-year course for children between the ages of 6 and 15 years. The programme brings about a perfect synthesis between the five human values with their counterpart traits of human personality and the ideals of education.

For the past 40 years, Bal Vikas Gurus have been implementing the Sri Sathya Sai Bal Vikas curriculum with great devotion and faith in Bhagavan Baba. In His infinite wisdom, as a part of His Divine Plan, Baba chose the children of Bal Vikas as the focus of attention for communicating His Message of Love through the Gurus. We have seen that the children who have gone through the course have become good citizens of their countries; the Bal Vikas Gurus have also derived immense happiness in conducting classes.

The Sri Sathya Sai Bal Vikas and Sri Sathya Sai Education in Human Values Programme, now re-christened as Sri Sathya Sai Educare is silently carrying out a mega-transformation process, which is unparalleled in the history of mankind. Even before mankind can realise, there will be a resplendent Divine Glow of the Energy of Love that will once again engulf the entire humanity.

More and more countries have plans for expanding Bal Vikas education in the coming years. Schools which have been imparting Bal Vikas education have been currently functioning in Australia, Brazil, Canada, Fiji, Thailand, Mauritius, Nepal, Sweden, U.S.A. and Zambia. Some countries have also adopted the existing schools with a view to impart Bal Vikas education through the subjects currently taught in those schools.

Dharmakshetra – A Beacon

Maiden Foreign Divine Visit to Africa

It was very appropriate that Bhagavan selected Dharmakshetra to plan His Maiden Foreign Divine Visit to Africa in July 1968. Dharmakshetra literally means restoring Dharma wherever and whenever there emerges a demonic rule of Adharma in the form of colossal degradation of moral standards, character and human values. That is why Bhagavan had declared Dharmakshetra to be a Beacon reflecting Bhagavan's profound Love to annihilate the suffering of mankind through Love and Self-less Service.

Bhagavan lit the lamp of Love in the hearts of the African people, planted Human Values by introducing Sai Educare; opened several educational institutions and Seva (service) centres, initiated drinking water and other socio-economic welfare projects.

Soon after placing His Divine Lotus Feet on the soil of Nairobi during His maiden (and until now the only) visit outside India, at a public meeting in Nairobi on 4 July 1968, Bhagavan Baba disclosed His Avataric Mission in the following unforgettable words:

"I have come to you only to light the lamp of Love in your hearts, to see that it shines with increasing luster. I have not come to speak in support of any particular Dharma, like the Hindu Dharma, or on any mission of publicity for any sector creed, or to attract disciples and devotees into my fold or accumulate followers for any doctrine. I have come to tell you of this unitary faith, this

Atmic principle, this Universal Love, this all-embracing Divine Essence, this Dharma of Prem, this Obligation to Love."

The Avatar's words were not to be in vain. The seeds of Love that were sown in the hearts of millions during His visit to East Africa sprouted over the years and in time, took deep roots in this continent.



On return from East Africa back to Mumbai a pulic reception was held which was presided over by Late Kulpati Dr. K. M. Munshi, founder of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, in July 1968

Swami's Visits to the State of Gujarat

Mumbai was also the starting point of Swami's maiden visit to the state of Gujarat in 1967. This visit triggered off a chain of activities like setting up of the India's best cardiac care hospitals in Rajkot, Sri Sathya Sai schools across Navsari, Surat, Ahmedabad, Jamnagar and a range of socio care activities across the state. In His maiden visit to the state of Gujarat, Bhagavan won the hearts of lakhs of Devotees, in whose hearts He sowed the seeds of Selfless Service and Love and Supreme Devotion to the Lord.

Leading luminaries like Gulab Kunvarba, the Rajmata of Navanagar, Kulpati K M Munshi, Justice P N Bhagavati and Dr.Dhirubhai Gadhia became perfect instruments in executing the Divine Plan of the Lord in Gujarat.

NEW INITIATIVES FOR A NEW AFRICA



A historic journey, Bhagavan Baba blessed Mumbai as a launching pad in go abroad for only visit overseas to East Africa, in July 1968

Free Education

In the year 1992, the first Sathya Sai School was established by Sister Genevieve and Bro. Victor Kanu as per the Divine Directions of Baba. Within a few years, nurtured by love and care which the children had hardly known before, the school alumni started transforming themselves into the best academic achievers in the country. The 'miracle' school was attracting educationists from all over the world to see 'Love in Action'.

By 2001, a Sathya Sai School had started functioning in Kisaju, Kenya, integrating Sathya Sai Education in Human Values into the national school curriculum. Here again, the pupils, mostly destitute children, started excelling academically within a short time. The local Masai children could easily identify with 'Ma Sai' as one school teacher noted: "We are all involved in the process of change through love".

As Sathya Sai Schools were spreading through Africa, the efficacy of Human Values in bringing about a lasting, positive change in attitude and behavior in society was being studied by the United Nations. The opportunity came when, in a bold move, a group of international experts convened by the United Nations in South Africa in 2001, unanimously adopted a Human Values-based approach to

the introduction of Water Education in Africa. The five cardinal Human Values of Love, Truth, Peace, Right Conduct and Non-violence were the driving force to bring about a caring society in Africa that would give and forgive rather than get and forget.

The following years would see African educationists: teachers, curriculum specialists and educational administrators in a growing number of countries: Cote d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia, enthusiastically embracing Human Values through the United Nations Water Education programme, so that "education would no more be for mere living, but it would be for life, a fuller life, a more meaningful and worthwhile life". The African Institute of Sathya Sai Education (Ndola) played a key role in training educators from across the continent in imparting Education in Human Values.

It is imperative to mention that besides several awards which have been conferred to the Sri Sathya School in Zambia by the Governments in Africa, an extraordinary award, viz. the International Gold Star Award for Quality in terms of Leadership, Innovation, Training and Excellence in Education was conferred to the School on 30 May 2005 at Paris, France by the WORLD QUALITY COMMITMENT. This award opened the eyes of the world to the importance of Sri Sathya Sai methodology in Education.

Today, Sri Sathya Sai Baba's Gift of Grace has developed a new breed of educators who would make a new generation of youth - men and women of character imbued with true love in the heart - the Harbingers of not only a new Africa, but of a new world itself.

Drinking Water Project in Uganda

On the eve of the celebration of the 80th year of the Advent, to commemorate the great bond between Dharmakshetra and Africa, the Sri Sathya Sai Trust, Maharashtra together with the Government of Uganda had undertaken to set up 80 bore wells in Uganda to provide drinking water to thousands of people.

Service: The Passport to Divine

Mumbai was also witness to Swami's master plan to transform the ills of an unequal world. He demonstrated how 'Hands that Help are Holier than Lips that Pray' and instilled the firm belief that 'Manav Seva is Madhav Seva'

(Service to Man is Service to God) and inspired everyone to follow His philosophy of 'Love All, Serve All' and 'Help Ever, Hurt Never'.

While Seva became the war cry to address the inequalities of the society, Swami advocated a three-pronged approach to solving the problems:

Educare: Free Education

Medicare: Free Health Care

Sociocare: Free Basic Amenities

SRI SATHYA SAI EDUCARE

Baba says, "Education is not for a living, but for life, and that the end of Education is Character. Education is the basis for leading a purposeful life in the physical world, in the realm of the mind and in society. It equips one with the mental strength and steadiness to face the challenges of life. Real education should enable one to realise that mankind is one family. It should help one to experience the unifying forces in society."

Sri Sathya Sai Baba's firm conviction that the colonial system of education had outlived its utility and had been paralysed by indiscipline, bewilderment and irreverence, led to the carving out of a new path altogether. This new path seamlessly integrates our deeply rooted traditions, culture and spirituality, while actively encouraging modern advancements in science and technology. He envisioned a unique reorientation of the system of education which would arrest the decline in standards of morality in our public and national life.

Baba spelt out His Mission in the field of Education in one of the discourses which He delivered while inaugurating the Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning (now Sri Sathya Sai University) by stating, "this College has not been established just to prepare you for earning Degrees. The main purpose is to help you to cultivate Self-knowledge and Self-confidence, so that each one of you can learn Self-sacrifice and earn Self-Realisation. Our hope is that by your lives, you will be shining examples of Spiritual Awareness and its beneficial consequences to the individuals and society".

The Sri Sathya Sai System of Integral Education blends together class-room work, residential life and extra-curricular activities to achieve a coherent development of

the body, mind and soul of each student. The watchwords are – Duty, Discipline and Devotion. The focus is on the Purity and Harmony of Thought, Word and Deed (Trikaranashuddhi).

Baba has set the goal that when the students graduate from the University, they should be fully imbibed with noble ideas, patriotic fervor, compassion for the downtrodden, a desire for selfless service and above all, the firm determination to uphold the twin Vedic Injunctions: Satyam Vada (Always speak the Truth) and Dharmam Chara (Always engage in Righteous Action).

Besides the schools and colleges at Prashanti Nilayam, Whitefield, Bangalore and Girls' Colleges at Anantpur, Bhopal and Jaipur, there are 99 schools functioning in various states of India and 43 Sri Sathya Sai Schools functioning in 35 countries. As a nodal agency to oversee these schools, there are 25 Institutes of Sri Sathya Sai Education, abroad and one at Mumbai. These institutes monitor constantly the quality of Excellence in Education being imparted in these schools.

Needless to add this is one of the most extraordinary achievements of Sri Sathya Sai Baba which will have to be emulated by educationists and governments throughout the world for ushering in a new era of World Peace. There is no other methodology, whatsoever.

SRI SATHYA SAI MEDICARE

Sri Sathya Sai Baba says, "Health is an essential requisite for man; it is the very foundation for all his endeavours in the pursuit of the four objectives of life; Dharma (Righteousness), Arth (Wealth), Kaam (Desire) and Moksh (Liberation). Medical care must be available to all patients free of charge. Medical care must be administered with love and care. Every patient should be given the best available treatment. Treat the patient and not merely the disease".

We are living in an age of progress and extra ordinary scientific inventions. Man has reached the Moon, and soon would conquer Mars and other planets. He has split the atom and decoded the DNA. In the developed countries there has been great progress with a very high standard of living, great advances in the field of medicine and research. However, while there is development and advancement in the Western world, the factual situation in Africa and the Eastern countries is not just horrifying but woefully saddening. In India, the scenario in the villages is bad. Infant mortality rates are very high. Even child birth claims many lives of

both mother and child due to lack of proper qualified doctors and nurses during delivery. The situation is alarming and grim.

It is in such a scenario that the extra-ordinary work done by Sri Sathya Sai Baba in the last 65 years needs a special mention. Baba has shown that if the will is firm, then there will be a way. What has been done by Baba in the field of medicine not only touches the heart but makes one sit and wonder. Baba's example shows that if the heart is filled with Love, then helping those in distress overrides all other priorities.

The first Sri Sathya Sai General Hospital was started by Baba in the village of Puttaparthi way back in 1956. In the early 1970s, Baba started yet another Hospital a few kilometers from His Ashram in Whitefield, near Bangalore. On November 22, 1991 the Sri Sathya Sai Super Speciality Hospital was inaugurated at the Prashantigram in Puttaparthi and in January 2001 Baba started His second Super Speciality Hospital in Whitefield, Bangalore.

To widen the area of coverage to the villagers who could not be covered by the above hospitals, the Sri Sathya Sai Mobile Hospital was set up with the aim to improve the quality of life of the poorest of the poor with a prime focus on their health and physical well being, keeping in mind Bhagavan Baba's words that effort to serve must spring from the concern for the suffering of others and the service should be a genuine effort to get rid of anguish. There was a need for such a project as the extremely needy and vulnerable sections of the society do not have access to the bare minimum of medical care and this mobile hospital now brings the best in health services to the rural doorstep.

The Sri Sathya Sai Mobile Hospital project is now being replicated by the most of the states.

It must be mentioned in bold letters. The Sri Sathya Sai Medical Trust is the only Charitable Trust in India to offer complete medical care including consultation, diagnosis, comprehensive treatment and follow up at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels to all patients free of all charges. In fact, there are no billing/cash counters in any of the medical institutions. This is an extraordinary feat in itself.

Millions of patients have been treated till date in various areas of medicare in these temples of healing as Baba calls them.

Dr. Michael Nobel, Chairman of the Appeal of the Peace Prize Laureates Foundation said, "I have never seen anything like this on earth... it is a wonderful feeling far removed from the National Healthcare in the West which does not seem to work very well.... the impressive thing about the hospital created by Bhagavan Sai Baba is the combination of three aspects: state-of-the-art technology, free medical treatment and the healing powers of His presence instilling in the patient the firm belief that he/she will get well; this is something I believe Western healthcare would do, very well consider."

Dr.Manmohan Singh, the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India after visiting the Medicare Centres of Baba said, "I have been to several hospitals of repute in various parts of the world, but I have not seen anywhere so magnificent a medical institution as Sri Bhagavan Baba's Institute, another instance of His divine gift to our people.

SRI SATHYA SAI SOCIOCARE

It was in the year 1994 that Baba said, "do all that is necessary to supply safe drinking water throughout the year to as many people in as many villages of Anantpur District as possible, no matter what the cost and what the difficulty. And do this in the shortest possible time."

Air, food and water are the three basic primary necessities for life. Air is freely available where as food and water have always been concerns of millions of poor people across the globe. Water is also available to many but it is in a contaminated form which further causes health concerns. Furthermore, this can give rise to many issues that can affect the peaceful sustenance of people and society at large. Baba's overflowing love could not stand the suffering of the millions of poor people. It was in early 1995, that he added a new dimension to his socially oriented projects by coming up with the first of many Sri Sathya Sai Drinking Water Projects.

Four major water projects have been done till date by the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust. The first massive pure and safe drinking water supply project covering 731 villages in the Anantpur District of Andhra Pradesh was completed in a record time of just 18 months. More than a million people were benefitted by this Drinking Water Project planned and commissioned as per the divine will of Sri Sathya Sai Baba.

The Ninth Five Year Plan document of Government of India added a citation to the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust in appreciation of the above project, which reads:

"Sri Sathya Sai Trust has set an unparalleled example of private initiative in implementing a project on their own, without any state's budgetary support, a massive water project, with an expenditure of Rs. 3,000 million to benefit 731 villages affected with scarcity and fluoride and salinity and a few towns in Anantpur district of Andhra Pradesh in a time frame of about 18 months."

The other three drinking water projects undertaken by Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust under the divine guidance of Baba are the projects at Medak and Mahabubnagar in 2001, Chennai City in 2004, East Godavari and West Godavari Districts in 2007. A massive investment has been made by the Trust into all these drinking project schemes, which could not be undertaken by any of the Governments, either at the Centre or at the State ever since India became an independent sovereign republic.

The most important feature of the Sociocare activities undertaken by the Central Trust at Prashanti Nilayam or by the respective State Trusts or the Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations is that they are performed purely on charitable lines and completely free of cost to the recipients. The uniqueness of the Sai Trusts and its activities is that there are no donation boxes kept anywhere in any of the Sri Sathya Sai Centres either at Prashanti Nilayam or any other Sai Centres in India or overseas. No individual is allowed to collect any money and give receipts for the same. No activity is done on a commercial basis with a view to making profit.

This silent yet powerful movement occurring in one corner of India, viz. at Prashanti Nilayam, Puttaparthi in Andhra Pradesh has assumed gigantic proportions spawning every district and state of this country and nearly 200 countries across the globe. The diverse projects undertaken and institutions established by Baba stand as role models worthy of emulation and replication in the widest scale possible for the benefit of all mankind irrespective of any distinction. Several such initiatives have been embarked upon across all fields influencing and improving the quality of human life. The power and motivation behind this revolution is only 'Selfless Love' and this power exists in each one of

us, says Baba. All we need to do is to kindle, tap and channelise that power for the benefit of all.

Relevance of Dharmakshetra in New Age India

While we have advanced as a race, we are perpetually dissatisfied and unhappy. Each one of us is on a meaningful and elusive search for happiness and peace. In this pursuit, we have forgotten the truth.

Peace, Love, Happiness are neither philosophical constructs found by relinquishing the world nor can the same achieved by memorising holy texts. Intellect, wealth, progeny provide transient bliss like a bubbles in the ocean of life. The truth is that each one of us is a manifestation of the divine. Each one of us is a living embodiment of Peace, Love, and Happiness. What we are seeking outside is really inside us. This is exactly what every religion in the world advocates.

Swami has synthesised the messages of all the religions and faiths in the world and simplified them to easily understand and implement. The beauty of His message is that it is palatable for Generation Ex and Generation Next too.

Swami's Message

"My message is one and the same for all people irrespective of color, caste, creed, geographies, names, forms. All religions are facets of the same Truth. All scriptures are holy. All places of worship are holy. All religions are seeking the one and same God, although they may call Him by different names.

There is only ONE God and He is Omnipresent
There is only ONE Religion, the Religion of Love
There is only ONE Caste, the Caste of Humanity
There is only ONE Language, the Language of the Heart
There is only ONE Law, the Law of Karma.

The truth is that God and Love are one and the same. I have become known as the lamp of Love in your heart. In its light, you will see God in each and everyone. Let the different faiths exist and let the glory of God be sung in all languages and tunes. If each person respects the differences between the faiths and lives the ideals propounded by the founding fathers of their religions, unaffected by greed or hate, this world will be happy and a peaceful habitat for humanity."

Transformation

People describe the 21st century as the Age of Information Technology. Sri Sathya Sai clarified saying that "it is the age of Transformation Technology and it will be the most beautiful world wide web of living beings. Each human being will be receiving the love and grace of God and real time transmit it all around via www i.e. Work, Worship, Wisdom. We need love in Thought, Word and Deed, which will transform this world into a conflict-free place.

Dharmakshetra continues to ensure that the world does not become another Kurukshetra by living by what Swami envisioned Mumbai to be the perfect Karmabhoomi.

In closing, the divine statement made by Baba about 'DHARMAKSHETRA' on May 12, 1969 during its first anniversary has a great relevance today. Baba said,

"Dharmakshetra has a great part to play. It is in Bombay (now Mumbai) which is the stomach of Bharat. The Himalayas are the Head and Kanyakumari is the feet. When the stomach is inefficient, the entire body suffers the consequences. So, keep Dharmakshetra efficient and strong. Do not allow it to degenerate into a Kurukshetra; let not friction and faction raise their heads here. Let the high ideals of Dharma be upheld here. This is the real Seva I expect from you and through you. If this is done, our land will have peace and security."

A golden chapter is being etched in the history of mankind from the small village of Puttaparthi. This story is indeed 'His Story'!

"JEWELS ARE MANY, GOLD IS ONE,
CASTES ARE MANY, HUMANITY IS ONE
STARS ARE MANY, SKY IS ONE,
NATIONS ARE MANY, EARTH IS ONE,
BEINGS ARE MANY, BREATH IS ONE,
PATHS ARE MANY, GOD IS ONE. "

- Sri Sathya Sai

THUS SPAKE SRI SATHYA SAI IN BOMBAY...!

Plant the seed of devotion early in life

I have been in Bombay for ten days now and I must say that the people here have been very disciplined and they have evinced great thirst for spiritual sustenance. I shall certainly come here more often. Today is Gudi Padua and that has brought such a large number of you here, in lakhs, to this place, The Seva Samiti Volunteers have done very good work today as well as on all these days and I bless them specially. From tomorrow, you need not trek to the Gwalior Palace for bhajan or Darshan (audience). I would advise you to treasure in your heart the anand that you earned there for ten days; recapitulate in the silence of your hearts your prema and My prema and dwell gladly in the Prashanti, that is the fruit of that Sadhana.

Sardar Patel Stadium, 23 March 1966

Maharashtra is the land of many saints who have spread Bhakti through their teachings. It is the heart of Bharatvarsh on account of this. Try to deserve being the children of Maharashtra by following their valuable teachings.

Sardar Patel Stadium, 21 March1967

Develop *Bhakti* (devotion) and *Shraddha* (faithful practice) by means of *Namasmarana* and *Japam*. Practice silence and sweetness. Serve all as *Sai Swarup* (embodiments of Sai); that is the best plan to realise the Sai in you.

Andheri, 29 March1967

Unity in unity

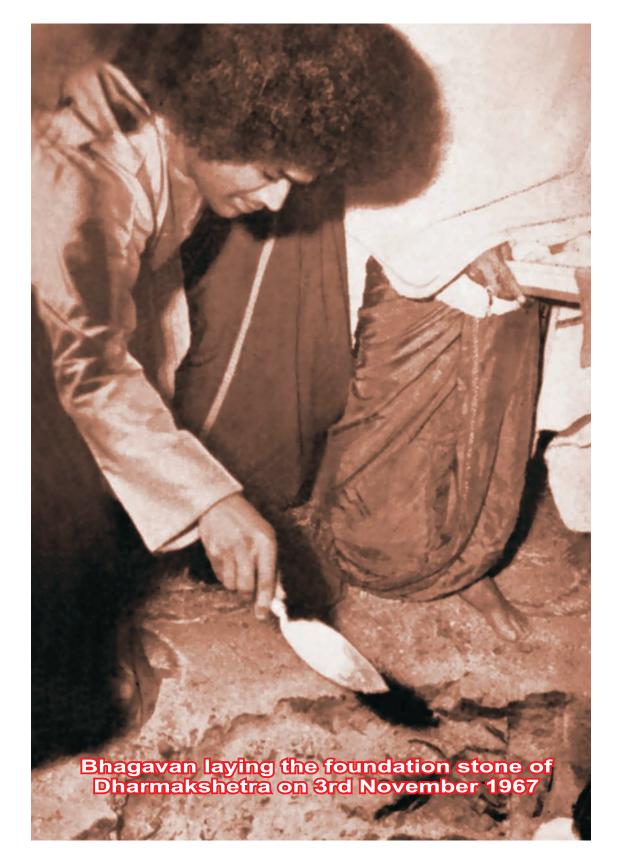
The basic teachings of Indian sages about spiritual values have been neglected so disastrously that selfish greed and cruel competition have robbed all happiness and peace from the heart of this land. Life has been rendered artificial and anemic, riddled with anxiety and fear. At this juncture, you in Bombay have built in your city this Dharmakshetra (the abode of righteousness)! In this age of atom bombs, you have erected an altar for Atmic bliss! This is indeed a sign of your faith and devotion, faith in the ideals of this land and devotion to the highest traditions nourished by the sages. Seeds of the search for bliss are dormant in the hearts of men. Some nurture them; some tend them, until they blossom. Many have not recognised their existence; they cultivate thorns and thistles, trees yielding bitterness and ugly hate.

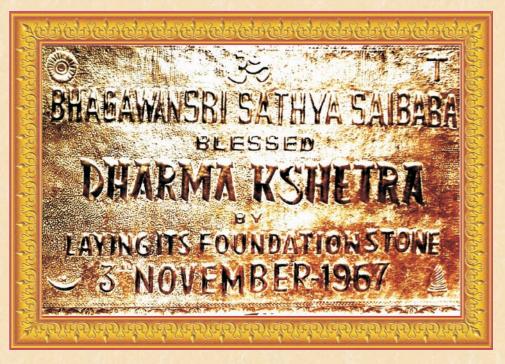
The campus on which the building Sathyadeep (lamp of truth) has been inaugurated today is named Dharmakshetra; it is a very appropriate name, for a place from which the message of Sathya, Dharma, Shanti and Prem (truth, righteousness, peace and love) will reach the lands parched with thirst for these pure, pellucid waters.

Victory is always for righteousness, not for greed

The word Dharmakshetra is the first word in the Geeta. In the very first verse of that Song Celestial, the Kurukshetra (field of action), on which Maamakaah (my people as the blind Dhrutrashtra designated them, through fond attachment and egoistic delusion)--that is to say, people motivated by greed and passion, and Paandavaas (the other people, the good and righteous, the sons of the fair one, the progeny of the pure) is spoken of as already transmuted into Dharmakshetra (field of righteousness)! For, victory is always for righteousness and not for greed and passion, which blind man. For the Lord is on their side; He is the charioteer, chosen as such and willing to serve as such. The word Dharmakshetra is a reminder, a warning, a lesson, an inspiration, a light. You must accept that name in your hearts---for, there too the forces of righteousness and covetousness are locked in combat and the forces of righteousness are helped by the Lord to succeed.

The Himalayas are the head of Bharat; Kanyakumari (Cape Comorin) is the feet; Bombay is the stomach; Prashanti Nilayam is the heart. The stomach





It was a golden moment when Bhagavan laid the foundation stone of Dharmakshetra. It became a source of strength and succor to the devotees and a Guiding Star to the spiritual seekers.

receives food and distributes strength and stamina to all parts of the body. Your responsibility is great; if you neglect it, the entire land and all that it stands for will suffer. You have undertaken the responsibility of the World Conference of Sathya Sai Organisations to be held here next week, and it is a great chance for the expression of love and brotherliness. The Seva Dal (Service Organisation) of young men and women which you have trained and organised will be an inspiration and an example to all the states in India. If properly guided, the youth of India can be saved from imitative adventures, reckless wanderings into realms of fantasy; they can be led into constructive activities saturated with love and sympathy, where their enthusiasm and skill can be best utilised.

Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Campus, 12 May 1968

Name, the never-failing fountain

"ASCETIC practices, years of constant recitation of the Name, pilgrimages to holy places and shrines, study of sacred books—these will not help the aspirant to spiritual victory as much as communion with the Godly and the good." "Bharat is a rare treasure-house of spiritual jewels; it can confer all boons on sincere seekers; this conference of seekers is indeed a great opportunity, and for the people of Bombay, this is a great piece of good fortune.

This conference will discuss this great spiritual exercise of Namasmarana, let Me tell you that no particular Names can be raised to a status higher than the rest, for all Names are His and He answers to all. I propose to dilate on this point, at the Sessions of the Conference, for it is a beneficent discipline, not only for this country but for all the countries of the world. I shall conclude with the expression of My satisfaction that the Conference is being held in the campus of the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan; surely, no better place can be found in Bombay than this for a Conference that attempts to carry the message of Bharatiya Vidya to all mankind.

Inauguration: World Conference of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Campus, 16 May 1968

Be conscious of God's Presence as the Motivator

I have not got the slightest intention to utilise the Seva Samitis (Service Organisations) for propagating My Name or canvas homage for My Name. No! I am content only when spiritual endeavours and disciplines to elevate and purify man are progressing everywhere. It is only through these that My universal reality will be revealed. So, do not limit Me to the boundaries of any one name and form. Your aim should be to see the self-same God in all the Forms that are worshipped, to picture Him in all the Names, nay, to be conscious of His presence as the inner motivator of every living being, in every particle of matter. Do not fall into the error of considering some to be men worthy of reverence and some unworthy. Sai is in every one; so, all deserve your reverence and service. Propagate this truth; that is the function I assign to the Seva Samitis.

A unique World Conference held for the first time

When you attempt to cultivate and propagate this love and this fortitude, trouble and travail will dog your steps. You must welcome them, for without them, the best in you cannot be drawn out. If gold was as plentiful as dust or diamonds as easily available as pebbles, no one would care for them. They are won after enormous exertion and expense; therefore they are eagerly sought after. Since at this place, those who have devotion are gathered and people of all nations have come, I cannot but tell you one fact. World Conferences dedicated to religion or spiritual problems have, no doubt, been held before; also, conferences of followers of particular faiths. But these have been held only after the demise of the founders and Divine inspirers. This is the very first time that a World Conference is held of persons devoted, while the incarnation is present before every one, with the body assumed for the purpose, beating the Name that is chosen for it by Itself. I must tell you this fact, because ninety-nine persons out of hundred among you do not know My Reality. You have come here drawn by diverse needs, a taste for spiritual matters, eagerness to develop the institutions to which you are attached, admiration or affection, love or reverence or a spurt of enthusiasm to join others and share with others your own exultation.

> World Conference of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations, 17 May 1968

Strive to rise up to the highest type of men

We can distinguish four types among men: The highest types are those who are so good themselves that they are utterly disinclined to note the faults of others, those who, therefore, see everybody as only righteous and virtuous. The middling types are those who see the good as good, and the bad as bad. The lower types are those who accept only the bad and ignore the good. Finally, the lowest, the worst are those who judge the bad alone as good and enforce its acceptance.

You have to avoid the last type and the third one and strive to rise up to the second and the first. All the rules and disciplines that have been prescribed by this Conference for your activities are for helping you in this spiritual effort. They are intended for your benefit, not for heightening My authority. So far as I am concerned, there is only one rule that binds you to Me; the Rule of Love. That love will inspire you, instruct you, quieten and comfort you.

World Conference of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations, 18 May 1968 (Morning)

The Sathya Sai Seva Samiti of Bombay as well as the Prashanti Vidwan Mahasabha (Maharashtra Branch) have made fine arrangements for your boarding and lodging and for the Conference. They have planned and executed the programmes of the Conference on a grand scale, in order to highlight the spiritual purpose of the Conference and to give you all the chance of My Darshan, Sparshan and Sambhashan (observing, touching and conversing). You must be grateful to them for this. They have set an example which will serve other Samitis in other cities. I bless you that you may, by your efforts in your places, promote the spiritual progress of yourselves and the people of the world.

World Conference of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations, 18 May 1968(Evening)

Without bounds, devotion easily falls into hysteria

Dr. Munshi now described Bombay as the City Of Lost Faith; people here value Dhanam (riches) more than dharma (fight). But, I know that the citizens of Bombay are imbued with a great craving for the right, the moral and the spiritually uplifting dharma. I know that they yearn for it and would like to acquire it. Only they have no knowledge or experience of the discipline that can confer it, the mode of life that will ensure it.

Dharmakshetra, 14 July1968

Dharmakshetra and Kurukshetra are within everyone

Dharmakshetra and Kurukshetra are not to be looked for near Delhi or Hastinapur, on the map or on the ground. Nor are the Pandavs and Kauravs merely princely clans figuring in the tale. The human body is named Kshetra, and so Dharmakshetra, is in every one. When the owner of the body discards all desires, all passions, all impulses and all propulsions, then the body becomes Dharmakshetra! A child has in its heart only Dharmakshetra, for, it has not yet developed sensual desires. It accepts whatever is offered. Its ego is not yet ramified into the objective world of multiplicity. But, later, when it grows branches and foliage, the Dharmakshetra takes the shape of Kurukshetra!---the battlefield where the mind struggles between hope and despair, and is compelled to consume the diverse fruits, sweet and bitter, of one's acts. The Atma is described as a Vidyullekha (a streak of lightning), of the splendour of a crore of suns! The word Geeta also means 'Lightning' and so, that Vidyullekha is the Krishna in us, that is to say, the Geeta in us, the Atma that is counseling us and correcting us, as the God within.

Do not throw overboard the Bharatiya culture

Dharmakshetra, it was mentioned, is being developed as an International Centre for Sadhaks and inquirers, eager to learn the Sanathana (ancient) way of life. India has no dearth of temples and institutions claiming to guide the pilgrims to God. In a Granthalay (Library), only people interested in books will gather; the Bhojanalay (Boarding House) is frequented only by those who want a meal; the Vaidhyalay (Hospital) is resorted to only by the sick; but in the Devalay (Temple of God), we do not find today either devotees or

God! This is the only House where the legitimate owner is absent! Temples were the centres for the spread of Bharatiya Indian culture, and, when the attraction for western culture became strong, they were deserted, and left open to the ravages of time.

Dharmakshetra has a great part to play. It is in Bombay, which is the stomach of Bharat. The Himalayas are the Head and the Kanyakumari is the feet. When the stomach is inefficient, the entire body suffers the consequences. So, keep the Dharmakshetra efficient and strong. Do not allow it to degenerate into a Kurukshetra; let not friction and faction raise their heads here. Let the high ideals of Dharma (righteousness) be upheld here. This is the real seva (service) I expect from you and through you. If this is done, our land will have peace and security.

Dharmakshetra, 12 May 1969

Have faith in God and in your own strength

You are members of Sathya Sai Bal Vihar. You must shine as fine examples to other boys and girls. When you are at home and when some friends of your father come in, you must rise from your seat, talk politely and clearly, receive them gladly, and be nice towards them. When you have to talk over the phone, don't shout rudely, "Hello, Hello," to everyone. Elders must not be addressed so lightly. Hello! Hello! is not polite; it is used only among chums. I would like you to say, Ore. Then, even your parents and elders will learn to say, Ore, from you. You must use some word that is especially Indian. Now, you learn only the ways of other lands and other people. At school, the first lesson is: "Baa baa black sheep, Have you any wool?" and the second, "Ding dong bell, Pussy is in the well." Gone are the days when the first lesson was on Ram, Krishna or some great sage or saint. Getting to know about black sheep will make children black sheep; getting to know about the great and the good will make children great and good. Children of the Bal Vihar are therefore told stories of Ram, Krishna and other Divine persons. Learn those tales and decide to live like them. Learn Indian ways, Indian tales, and be true Indians. That is easy for you, and quite necessary. For example, why say, "Good Morning" or "Good Night." Namaskaar or Namaste is the Indian way, the really humble way. You must have Bhay, Vinay and Vishwas---fear, humility and faith. Fear of what? Fear of doing wrong, of

falling into falsehood. Humility before whom? Before elders, teachers, parents. Faith in What? Faith in God, in your own strength, in your own victory.

I want each one of you to grow into strong, steady, straight persons. Your eyes should not seek evil sights; your ears should not seek evil tales; your tongue should not seek evil speech; your hands should not seek evil acts; your minds should not seek evil thoughts. Be pure, be full of love. Help those who are in worse condition, serve those who need your help. Then, you shall be worthy members of the Sathya Sai Bal Vihar.

Dharmakshetra, 16 May 1969

Progress and peace depend upon sacrifice

Do not circumscribe your seva to the time when I am in Bombay, or to the limits of the Dharmakshetra. Be alert to the call, everywhere, at all times; be ready with the smile, the kind word, the useful suggestion, the knowledgeful care, the pleasant reply. Look about for chances to relive, rescue or resuscitate. Train yourselves that you may render help quickly and well. Seva is the most rewarding form of austerity, the most satisfying and the most pleasurable! It springs out of Love and it scatters Love in profusion. It plants a seed on stone and is delighted to see it sprout! Plant it with Love, and the seed will discover Love inside the stone and draw sustenance there from.

Jap and Dhyan will render you more efficient

Dr. Mistry has mentioned in his Report that you are doing good work in Bombay, donating blood, visiting hospital wards, maintaining First Aid Centres in your blocks, leading Bhajans (group singing the glory of God), promoting Bal Vihars, etc. But, it is not the quantity that matters; nor is it the variety. It is the inner joy, the Love that you radiate that is important. Mere sentiment and sympathy are of no use; they must be regulated by intelligence. Shower cheer on the sad; soothe those that have lost the way; close your eye to the faults of others, but keep them open to discover your own. All these are hard jobs. Practice alone can make you perfect—practice, not only in the item of service, but, in meditation on the Divine. Jap (inner muttering of holy words) and Dhyan (meditation) will render you more and more efficient in the field of service.

Dhyan is necessary, since it leads to Dharana (fixing the mind steadily on some desirable objective) and Samadhi (perfect equanimity). Practice Dharana, fixing your gaze at night, when you sleep on the terrace in the open, on a star that shines above your head! The practice of seva will cleanse the mind and sharpen concentration. Many members of the Seva Dal have told me that they are now able to do Dhyan longer and steadier. There are some who recommended drugs, soothers, and the like, to those eager to do Dhyan; but, they do not know that drugs are deceptive, debilitating and dangerous, they have deleterious consequences. I recommend seva.

You may be full of the urge to serve, but without vigilance and intelligence, service cannot be fruitful. Each little detail has to be attended to. For example, you compel some people to sit down, instead of standing and obstructing the view for others; you do not realise that there are some who are unable to squat on the floor as a result of physical handicaps! You move more at the back and on the sides of the gatherings, leaving the central mass unattended. You need not fuss around Me; attend rather to the needs of the old, the sick, the children, those in the sun, the thirsty, the exhausted. Do not hurt the feelings of any one, by harsh treatment. Do not hinder any one's chance of Darshan (audience of Baba). Show each one the courtesy you extend to the guests you receive at your own homes. This is your home and they are your guests. Let them have sweet memories of their visit to Dharmakshetra and of the Seva Dal.

This is an adhyatmik army---a spiritual platoon--engaged in cleansing itself. This movement must spread fast in India and march soon into overseas lands. Members of the Dal can be sent to other places in order to train others in this practical Vedanta (philosophical essence of the Vedas). For, if a person is imbued with the urge to serve and the belief that all are embodiments of the Divine Principle, that is itself the most potent Japa, the most beneficent Dhyan.

Practice what you preach; be what you profess to be. Your word and your work have to tally. Keep your senses and the mind, under rigorous control; be sweet and soft in speech, do not injure the feelings of even a little child. Then, this Dharmakshetra will become a Prashanti Nilayam, the Abode of Peace and Joy. If the Seva Dal and the volunteers of Bombay City, men and women train themselves on these lines, and succeed in this Sadhana, one of the Festivals now celebrated at Prashanti Nilayam can well be held here! We can tell people that

they got this grand chance as a result of the goodness, virtue and efficiency of the Seva Dal.

Dharmakshetra, 19 May 1969

Purify yourselves and purify the atmosphere

Be therefore ever vigilant that your activities do not drag you down into the depths of demon hood; let them elevate you into the heights of Divinity. It is really commendable that in this City so many of you are engaged in Bhajans, Nagarsankirtans and Namasmarana. Let the Name of the Lord proceed from the heart, not from the lips. Be Prahlad, in the land that is sick with too many Hiranyakashyaps. The Name of the Lord is the Narsimha that will save and sustain! Purify yourselves and purify the atmosphere, in which and by which you have to live. That is my advice and my blessing.

12 May 1970

"What kind of Government is the best?"

The answer is:

"That Government is best, which helps us to govern ourselves."

Make your Conscience the Ruler; do not depend on the external Ruler.

13 May 1970

Seek chances of helping others

I know that you are serving with so much enthusiasm and joy, because it is Swami's work and Swami's service, in which you feel you are engaged. As a matter of fact, Dharmakshetra (the Peace of virtue) is yours, your own home. And, your hearts are my home! Swami will safeguard the purity of your heart which is His home! Now that you are carrying on this part of His Mission so satisfactorily, Swami will bless you with His Presence, around, beside, behind and before you. I shall be here again in the course of this year; for, I appreciate the work that you and all others

connected with the Dharmakshetra are carrying on. Meanwhile, remember three things always: Continue Seva (selfless service), wherever you are.

Seek chances of helping others. Never lose an opportunity of using your skills and enthusiasm for the alleviation of sorrow, pain or distress. Again, do not omit to neglect or postpone your own particular spiritual Sadhana---study, Jap, Dhyan, Bhajan, Namsankirtan (recapitulation, meditation, group singing of the name and glory of God), and other such disciplines. Above all, have the faith that Swami is with you, at all times and all places.

Dharmakshetra, 21 May 1970

Link by link

I AM glad that the Office-bearers of the various units of the Organisation in Bombay have gathered here and are asking Me to tell them some words about Sadhana (spiritual discipline). A life of Sadhana involves the dedication of all acts to God, the offering of whatever one does or thinks or speaks at the Feet of God. You can do this only when you are aware always of the Presence of God, in and around you. Your awareness must not deviate for a moment from God. The mind must revolve round one centre, God. Your concentration must be strong and steady.

Dharmakshetra, 5 January 1971

Bliss obliterates all worries and anxieties

Sathya Sai Seva Samitis have been formed, to enable you to achieve peace and joy. They are not to be used for advertisement of myself or you. Some people ask. "Why should be there rules and regulations in a spiritual organisation?" How can progress be achieved without disciplining the mind? Regulation, strict regulation, is essential up to a certain stage of individual development. The aero plane runs on wheels for some length on the ground, before it takes off into the air. You may ask, "Why wheels for air-plane?" So too, when you reach a certain height in spiritual Sadhana, rules and regulations can be folded up, as the pilot folds up the wheels when up in the air. While serving

others through the Samiti, do not forget to do some Sadhana for your own advancement.

Parseva (service of others) is the negative pole; Atma-seva (service to oneself) is the positive pole; and when they meet, the Flash of Anand (Bliss) emanates. Bliss obliterates all worries, all fears, and all anxiety. March on to that consummation, through Sadhana and Seva. That is my Blessing to each of you.

→

13 May1971

Full circle or half circle?

You have joined the Study Class at Dharmakshetra, and are engaged in poring over all types of books and gathering information and instruction. But, what have you gained? Knowledge about what this author says or that sage teaches is not what your Study Circle must aim to acquire. Not information, but transformation; not instruction, but construction should be the aim. Theoretical knowledge is a burden, unless it is practiced, when it can be lightened into Wisdom, and assimilated into daily, life. Knowledge that does not give harmony and wholeness to the process of living is not worth acquiring. Every activity must be rendered valid and worthwhile by its contribution to the discovery of Truth, both of the Self and of Nature.

3 March 1974

In education spiritual values should be emphasised

Man must be engaged in work; he must do it with faith and devotion, as an act of worship; In this way, he will derive wisdom. But, the education imparted today does not direct him along these lines. It is sterile instruction, as it is. I hope that in this Polytechnic, whose foundation stone I am laying now, will pay attention to these points also. Moral and spiritual principles have to be emphasised all along, even while merely material subjects are taught and learnt. I want the Committee in charge of this Institution to propagate the ideals of service, love and Sadhana, which Sanathana Dharma embodies. Even a small number of such Institutions will be enough in our country to serve as examples and guides to others.

A College in every City is not necessary. We do not have several commanders-in-chief: we have only one, though soldiers are million or so. This one college in the city of Bombay, if it Is run in an Ideal manner, can spread the ideals of the Unity of Man and the Value of Love throughout Its vast population and even outside Its limits. Students who undergo training here, in this College, when they go to the other States will spread the ideals they have imbibed here. The role of the teachers is also important, for, if a student deteriorates; only he will suffer. We must try to raise in this College good teachers for similar colleges In future. The citizens of Bombay should endeavour to promote educational Institutions of this type and also institutions fostering the health of people, so that the land may have peace and prosperity.

Today, the foundation has been laid for this Agricultural College. I hope a beautiful building will come up here before long. I hope there will not be any misuse of money in wasteful expenditure. I hope students who are trained in this College will become efficient farmers, serf-reliant young men, who depend on their own skill, character and stamina for earning their livelihood. I bless you all.

5 January 1975

Everyone has to suffer for the injury he causes

When you visit the patients in a hospital serve the patients with a full heart, sincerely and to the utmost extent possible. I must say that the service programmes you have undertaken In Bombay City are being carried on very well. They can be the ideals for other clues to follow. But, do not put a full stop; have only a comma. Move on with greater and greater enthusiasm, and achieve more progress in all directions. Service is a life-time programme; it knows no rest or respite. This body has been given to you so that you may devote its strength and skills to the service of brother-man. Serve man, until you see God in all men; then, what you do will be elevated as Worship.

God is love and can be reached and realised through love. God is truth and can be reached and realised through truth. But, are you concentrating on the development of love and truth?

The tender age is the best for religious instruction

I must say that the Mahila Vibhag is evincing greater enthusiasm and love in their work---the Bal Vikas (children's section) classes, for example---than the men, in the Samitis. This is, I know, because the men have not got as much leisure to devote to Samiti activities; but, they can use the available time in sacred ways and to greater benefit. The kind of Seva (service) which the women are doing in the Bal Vikas is very useful, for it ensures a good future for our country, The children are trained in a very fine manner. These children will bear the burden of the country, better and more intelligently, with more attachment to the culture and traditions of Bharat.

Tell the children what they cannot learn by themselves, by observation, namely, the stories of Ramayana, the Bhagavat, and the Mahabharat. Tell them also stories from the Bible, the Buddhist texts, the Zend-Avesta and the Quran. That a horse has four legs is a fact which one need not teach the child; it can discover it in a moment. What are not known to the children are the stories and verses that embody oar culture.

Do not be deterred by people who say that the information and inspiration you give will be too much of a burden on the tender minds. It its only grown-ups that would find learning new facts burdensome; the tender age is the best for this kind of instruction. Tell them the Importance of OM and its significance, as the basic sound of all creation. It is meaningful symbolic sound; it is quite unlike the useless jargon which children learn today, in the very first lesson at school; Ba Ba, Black Sheep! Ding Dong Bell; the Pussy is in the well!

Aim at the promotion of Faith in God

The Seva Dal members must spend their leisure time in Satsang (good company) and not waste even a moment in frivolous play. Take some good books and read them out to illiterate brothers and sisters, spread the Message of our culture among all those who have no chance to know about it. Do this service to the slumdwellers, the people who live in hutments, and the villages. The city dwellers are used to silly story books and novels that drain their brains and plant evil thoughts in their minds. But the poor in the villages and in the huts will welcome you and listen to the stories and lives of saints and Divine Incarnations. Transmit to these people the sacred texts of all religions and the lives of the Saints of all faiths. Do not imagine that your task is to propagate Sai and speak of Sathya Sai and His

Message. This is not right But, through the nine of Sathya Sai and the emphasis on the message, aim at the promotion of Godliness and of Faith in God. Create the spiritual attitude; promote spiritual discipline. It does not matter what Name you use, or what Form they concentrate upon. Through some Name and some Form, lead them into the path of Faith and Sadhana (spiritual discipline). Just now, some among you felt that the Sun is scorching the spot where I am and you wanted to do something to avoid it, but, this is happening to many people here, and you should not be content with measures to prevent the Sun from hurting one individual. Seva Dal must care for the comfort of all. There is the Atma in everyone. This body is for you and all these other bodies are also Mine.

Your Prema, your Shraddha, your Bhakti {love, steady faith and devotion) have persuaded Me to come over to Bombay, twice a year! If you promote these virtues even more, in a still larger measure, I will come to Bombay not twice, but thrice a year, and give you Anand (Divine Bliss). I give you blessing for all the Seva that you have undertaken and all the love you are sharing with others.

6 January 1975

Be eager to do your duty as best as you can

Humility, Forbearance, Sincerity; these are the primary virtues of a genuine son or daughter of Bharat. Your duty is to cultivate these and make the City of Bombay, which is the stomach of Bharat, healthy and clean. Then only can Bharat be happy. That is why the Dharmakshetra (Mansion of Morality) and the Dharma Stoop (Monument of Morality) have both been erected first in your City.

11 May 1975

Revere your Native region and Native language

It is desirable that you revere your native region and native language. But the reverence should not lead to Irreverence towards other regions and languages. Be proud of your language and culture---In that there Is no harm. But let not that pride lead you to dislike other languages and cultures. The languages by which thoughts are expressed may be varied, but the thoughts, emotions and feelings

are the same. The language of the heart is the same, but when it comes to the tongue, it may take various forms. When it is known and appreciated that the One manifested itself as the many, and that the One is known by many Names, there is really no scope for hatred or irreverence.

Andhra Educational Society Junior College, 30 December1977

Eternal values enshrined in indian culture

Mahatma Gandhi realised the eternal values enshrined in Bharatiya Culture. He attempted to promote these values through the primary schools he sponsored. When he was in prison, a British officer who visited him often asked him, "I find you sad and worried today. Tell me why?" and Gandhi replied, "I find that the educated person has a hardened heart, more hardened than the heart of an uneducated person. This is something that should not happen. The system is fraught with danger." This made Gandhi try his experiments in imparting Indian ideals to the tender minds in primary schools. The same officer approached Baa! Gangadhar Tilak later and told him how Gandhi had accused Western education of hardening the heart. He asked Tilak, "But, I find you have not been spoiled at all by the Western system of education."

Tilak replied, "I asserted that I am what I am, in spite of the system of education through which I had to pass."

Children have to learn the lesson of self-reliance

Crores of children live as beggars in the streets. It is the responsibility of the grownups to wean them away and enable them to become self-reliant, self-respecting citizens. Older people are like old trees; they cannot be bent in the direction which is good for them. But, these tender saplings can be trained to grow straight and strong. So, I wish to declare that the first duty of every adult, son and daughter of this country is to pay loving attention to the children. I call-upon you to resolve to establish a primary school and arrange for medical care for every village. Wealth is intended not for adding luxury to life, for reveling in sensual joy. Through good sanitation and good education you can improve the condition of the children. If it is your intention to raise India, once again, into an example and ideal for the rest of the world, it can be achieved only by hard physical work and by systematic reduction of desires.

In the sacred land of Bharat where Annapurna, the Goddess designated as food, is worshipped, there need be no shortage of food for the people. Controlling population is not the right remedy. For, consider this: Every child is born not only with a stomach that has to be catered to, it is also endowed with two hands which can work and produce the food for the stomach. The hands have to be given the strength and skill; they have to learn the lesson of self-reliance.

They should never be lazy or slothful. Then, there can be no deficiency in food and no problem of underfeeding.

Degrees are conferred even if the candidate secures 30 marks out of 100. This means that a person is certified useful, even if he commits 70 mistakes in every hundred items of work assigned to him by the authorities. The parents and the teachers must be examples of lives led in the light of Atmic consciousness. Then we can have a balanced education. Then we can have a generation of students wedded to the service of society, for each student will see in every other person a replica of the Divine Itself.

University Convocation Hall, 13 May 1979

Namsankirtan

Namsankirtan-This can grant full happiness to all people, in all places and at all times. There can be nothing greater or more gratifying. The Names Ram, Hari, Hara, Sai, Baba, Krishna---having each two syllables is all derived from the word Prema, which is the essence and core of the Atma. Prem or Love has to prompt our thoughts, penetrate our words and promote our actions. The word Naam has great significance numerological. Na is equal to 0. A is equal to two and ma equals five, the total being seven, indicating that the Naam Sankirtan needs seven elements for success: Shruti, Laya, Raag, Taal, Bhaav, Prem, Samhita. Seven can-notes, the seven swaras, the seven Rishis, the seven week days are known as the sacred Saptah. Sankirtan must be done with emphasis on tone, tune, and timing, attitude and attachment, and the attainment of the highest good. It is not singing for singing's sake. The melody must emerge from the heart, from genuine Love, which is so ardent that it is tapas itself. Sankirtan from such Sadhaks will certainly liberate the individual and transform the community and the world.

Premaswarups (Embodiments of Love)! Even if you are unable to do Dhyan or Jap, engage yourself in singing the Name of God, without fear and with faith.

Dharmakshetra, 26 January 1982.

If conditions in Bharat are to be improved; it is only businessmen who can do this. Businessmen can even reform the government. Businessmen can promote the world's progress. They can also ruin the world economy. By their own right conduct, businessmen should try to set right the administration.

The four avenues for utilisation of one's earnings

You must earn wealth by adhering to Dharma (Right action). Utilise the wealth to fight ends. Our ancients laid down four avenues for the utilisation of wealth or earnings. One fourth should be used for personal use and for supporting the family. Another fourth should be used for charitable and religious purposes. A third quarter should be spent on other living things like animals, birds, etc. The remaining fourth should be offered for supporting the State. It is only when one's wealth is utilised in this manner will it be really beneficial and meaningful.

Service to society is everyone's primary duty

How much better would it be if the crores of rupees spent on erecting temples are used for improving the condition of the poor, the destitute and the helpless? Institutions for helping the indigent unfortunates are more useful than edifices for worshipping some deities. To give a helping hand to the helpless is real service. Love towards one's fellow beings is the best spiritual discipline. Misuse of money is a great evil. Wealth must be used only for good purposes. Money is capable of leading man to any place, good or bad. Hence he should take care to see that wealth does not lead him to bad ways, or bring a bad name to this great country.

Service to society is everyone's primary duty. Businessmen should develop a moral approach, use right means for earning wealth and utilise it for the benefit of society.

Brabourne Stadium, 14 May 1984



Science for Elevation of Mankind

Many scientific inventions are extremely useful to man. But if they are not properly used they can cause great harm. For instance, television can be valuable means of educating and entertaining people. But how is it been used today? As soon as a boy returns from school, he throws away his books and starts looking at the TV. His mother serves him food near the TV set. Both mother and son keep watching TV without regard to their other duties. Several hours of precious time is wasted in watching TV. The fault lies not with the television, but with the excessive and wrongful use of the instrument. It is like a knife which can be used for slicing vegetables or stabbing a person. It is only when science is linked to spirituality that the results of science can be fully harnessed for the good and elevation of mankind.

26 January 1985.

It is important to learn your true nature

In the Study Circle, whatever we listen and assimilate in the mind should be distributed to others. In that way we show gratitude for what we have receded. We should not listen and keep it to ourselves only for our benefit. Whatever we hear and practice should also be distributed to society at large, Such gratitude is very important for man. In the study circle you can learn a lot of things, but the most important thing to be learnt is your own true nature--your Atma-tatva. Learning all about external things without knowing your real self is like studying the branches of a tree, ignoring its roots.

Address to the Study Circle for industrial workers at Shanti Deep, Dharmakshetra, 30 January 1985.

Give up selfishness: Cultivate unity

ALL the ills Bharat is suffering from are due to the lack of unity. The prevailing deplorable situation in the country after four decades of Independence and the disorder and violence prevailing everywhere are due to the ubiquitous growth of selfishness and self-centeredness. It is only when you have ideal leaders,

ideal parents and ideal teachers that the students will be inspired to act on right lines

Youths then and now

Fifty years ago, young people strove for the freedom of the country in a patriotic spirit. They tried to follow the example of great national leaders like Shivaji, Samarth Ramdas, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Sardar Patel and others. They walked in their footsteps. They used to adore the pictures of these leaders. If you examine the attitude of young people today, you will find chaos and confusion in their hearts. Patriotism has disappeared. Self interest and selfish concerns rule the roost. In their rooms, in the place of pictures of national heroes, you see only pictures of film stars. These are the deities whom they worship. On their tables you see transistor radios and video sets. Love of the nation has vanished from their thoughts. What is the reason for this? The root cause is the absence of exemplary parents and teachers. Even among the leaders, there are few that can be considered ideal examples. It is only when you have ideal leaders, ideal parents and ideal teachers that the students will be inspired to act on right lines.

Therefore, if today we seek to set the students on the right path and raise them to a higher level, the parents should consider it their primary duty to set the right example. But parents do not seem to pay much attention to this.

It is selfishness that is the cause of all the cruelty and violence today. It is more than four decades since Bharat achieved its freedom. What is it we have accomplished after attaining Independence? All that we have achieved are strife, disputes, riots and violence. Selfishness has reared its head in these forty years.

In human life, there are three important things: One is the individual; the second is the family; the third is the society. Today in whatever he does, man is concerned primarily about his individual interests. From there he proceeds towards concern for the family. But few care to take any interest in what concerns society as a whole. If society is not in good shape, how can individuals be well? Individual welfare is based on social well-being.

All the ills Bharat is suffering from are due to the lack of unity. Union is strength. Lacking unity, we are becoming weak. To promote unity, we have to give up selfishness.

Lead ideal and exemplary lives

When people claim to be Sai devotees, they should lead ideal and exemplary lives. Broaden your minds. Cultivate human values. Love, Truth, forbearance and compassion are the highest human qualities. Hatred, envy and greed are animal qualities. If you develop at least a few human qualities, you can progress towards God-realisation.

Dharmakshetra, 27 April 1990

Realising that human life is precious, fill your hearts with sacred thoughts and lead noble lives, dedicated to the service of society. Such service is indeed service to God. If you offer worship to one idol in your shrine you are worshiping only one. But when you render service to society you will be offering worship to innumerable forms of the Divine.

Dharmakshetra, 29 April 1990

Put Ceiling on Your Desires

Forbearance is the real beauty in this sacred land of Bharat.

Of all the sacred virtues, adherence to truth is true penance.

The nectarine feeling in this country is the feeling toward ones mother.

Character is valued far more superior to the very life itself.

People have forgotten the basic principles of the culture of Bharat

And are following and adopting Western culture today.

Bharatiyas are not aware of the greatness of their own cultural heritage

Just as the mighty elephant is not aware of its own strength.

Independence without unity is meaningless

The Prime Minister, Ministers, Chief Justice of India, and other high officers assembled in the capital, Delhi. All of them mentioned that we underwent tremendous sufferings and hardships, and lost many lives to achieve independence.

But we have not achieved unity in this country. What is the use of achieving independence without unity? We find that murders, kidnappings, hijacks have increased after attaining independence. Is this the type of independence we wanted? No. Independence is meant to confer peace, and it should develop the culture of the nation. We should not be dependent on others. We should be independent in every way.

Bharat is a sacred land. Noble souls were born here. Bharat was ruled by Sri Rama Himself. This is the land of the song celestial, the Bhagavad Geeta. This is the birthplace of the first composer, Valmiki. This is the birthplace of Veda Vyas, who classified the Vedas. This is the land traversed by Lord Buddha.

This is a land of merit and sacrifice. This is the birthplace of spiritual aspirants, seers and sages.

Develop love, practice sacrifice

There are many rich people in this country. There are many intellectuals. We have also men of valor. All are here. But what is the use? There is hatred between person and person. There is hatred and enmity between people of the same profession. It is a very bad quality. All are one; be alike to everyone. You have to love everybody. But, today, people are not broadminded. There should be expansion love. Today, there is only contraction love.

The man who goes by the mind will ruin himself.

He is worse than an animal.

The one who goes by the intellect is the one of wisdom.

So, you have to grow in intellect. As long as the mind persists, you are bound in illusion, you are bound to suffer.

I have been coming to Mumbai for many years. What have you achieved during this period? What spiritual practices have you undertaken? What truths have you known? Today, people crave bookish knowledge, superficial knowledge, and general knowledge, but they do not have practical knowledge. The one who has practical knowledge will have understanding of the divinity. But, today, people are heroes at platform and zeros in practice. You should be heroes in practice. Put into practice at least one sacred principle. At least speak the truth or develop love. That is enough. There is no greater Sadhana (spiritual discipline) than this. Sathyannasti paro dharma (there is no greater dharma than adhering to Truth).

What is dharma? True dharma lies in developing love. It is love that unifies all. This love will help you to experience unity in diversity.

14 March 1999.

Society's Well-Being is your well - being too.

We have attained human birth. There is nothing greater than this. Jantunam Narjanm Durlabham (out of all the living beings, the human birth is the rarest). You are born and brought up in society. Then why do you not work for the welfare of society? All the wealth that you have earned has come from society. You should show your gratitude to society. The world is facing problems because man does not show gratitude to society. You should never neglect society. Society's well-being is your well-being too. But, is anybody looking for the welfare of society? No. It is selfishness all around. Give up selfishness and work for the welfare of society. The world will enjoy peace and security only when you serve society and have devotion towards God. If you want that peace should reign in the world, then you should first develop peace in yourself. Where is peace? It comes only from our heart. Our heart is the source of peace, truth, righteousness and love. You have forgotten the heart and are searching for peace in the external world. You don't get peace in the bazaar, you get only pieces. Peace is only in your heart. Fill your heart with love. Whatever work you do, do it with total love. But now, wherever you go, there is only selfishness. Man has lost purity as his mind is polluted. The food you eat is impure. The air you breathe is impure. Everything is impure. Then how can you escape disease? If you do not want disease, eat pure food, breathe pure air, drink pure water and be pure. But wherever one looks around, there is only impurity. When you are surrounded by impurity, how can you get purity? When purity manifests from within, you can experience its reflection, reaction and resound in the external world. First and foremost, you have to infuse purity in society. To whomsoever you speak, speak sweetly, not with hatred, anger and jealousy. First you have to learn this. You cannot always oblige but you can speak always obligingly. Speak with love.

Earn The Wealth of Merit. You have forgotten love and are hankering after all worldly things. Wherever you go it is only money, money, and money. Money comes and goes but morality comes and grows. Everyone is interested in amassing wealth. But will the wealth accompany you when you leave this world?

No. Only the results of your actions will go with you. Wealth is not going to protect you. Only the wealth of merit will protect you. Paropakaray Punyay, Papay Parpeedanam, (one attains merit by serving others and commits sin by hurting them). Earn the wealth of merit. Do not accumulate sin. Alexander ruled over a vast empire, but when he died what did he carry with him? He went empty-handed. You should carry with you only pure love when you leave this world. If you earn the wealth of pure love, you are the richest person in the world. He who has much satisfaction is the richest man in this world and he who has many desires is the poorest man in this world. Today man is filled with desires from top to toe. As long as you have desires, you will never be happy and peaceful.

Embodiments of Love!

Swami has just come for a short while. I have not got the complete satisfaction of coming to Mumbai. I will come again. Cultivate love. Revere your parents. Make them happy. Then I will be with you always. Live a life of love.

Dharmakshetra, 1 June 2001

Cultivate Love and Become Divine

Embodiments of Love!

In this creation all are born to a mother, however great they may be or whatever they might have achieved. The mother's womb is like Bhumata (mother earth). The quality of the fruit will be the same as the quality of the seed sown in the earth. Revere the Mother as God In today's world, people lack purity and sacrifice. What is the reason? It is the lack of purity of the mother's womb. If the mother's womb is pure, the children born to her will also be pure. If there is peace in the mother's heart, the whole world will be peaceful. So, first and foremost, we need women of purity in this world. It is because of such pure women that Bharat became a Tyag Bhumi (land of sacrifice), a Yoga Bhumi (land of spiritually) and a Karma Bhumi (land of action) and could set an example to the rest of the world. People say motherland and not fatherland. In every country, the mother is held in high esteem. The feeling of motherhood is far superior to all other feelings. The main flaw of today's children is that they are not concerned about the

happiness and satisfaction of their parents. If you make your parents happy, the whole world will be happy. Matru Devo Bhava, Pitru Devo Bhava (revere the mother and father as God). You must understand that parents are verily God. You have to make your mother happy. Only then will there be peace and happiness in the world. It is meaningless to worship God without revering one's own parents. First of all, offer worship to your mother as she is the one who has given you birth. Only if the mother's heart is nectarous will the whole world be nectarous. Ram's Divinity blossomed under the loving care of Kaushalya. As He was born from the womb of Kaushalya, He got the qualities of Kaushalya. That is why He is worshipped as God. Shivaji could do so much sacrifice for the country because he was born to the pure lady, Jijabai. It is because of the nobility of the mother that the children attain good fortune.

Embodiments of Love!

You are born and brought up in society. Then why do you not work for the welfare of society? All the wealth that you have earned has come from society. You should show your gratitude to society. The world is facing problems because man does not show gratitude to society. You should never neglect society. Society's well-being is your well-being too. But, is anybody looking for the welfare of society? No. It is selfishness all around. Give up selfishness and work for the welfare of society. The world will enjoy peace and security only when you serve society and have devotion towards God.

"Poornamada Poornamidam Poornat Poornamudachyate Poornasya Poornamadaya Poornameva Avashishyate."

(That is full, this is full. When full is taken out of the full, what remains is again full.)

God is the embodiment of love. If you want God, you should have total love for God. You should not love God for material benefits. Love Him for the sake of love. Only then can you attain Him.

Embodiments of Love!

Give up body attachment. Cultivate the awareness of the Atma. Atmanand (bliss of the spirit) is Amrutanand (the eternal bliss). That is within you.

Brahmanandam, Parama Sukhadam, Kevalam Gyanmurtim,

Dwandwateetam, Gagan Sadrisham, Tattvamasyadi Lakshyam,

Ekam, Nityam, Vimalam, Achalam, Sarvadhee Sakshibhootam,

Bhavateetam, Trigunarahitam...!

(God is the embodiment of supreme bliss, He is wisdom absolute, the One without a second, beyond the pair of opposites, expansive and pervasive like the sky, the goal indicated by the Mahavakya 'Tattvamasi', the eternal, pure, unchanging, the witness of all functions of the intellect, beyond all mental conditions and the three Gunas of Satva, Rajas and Tamas). Everything is within. All qualities are within you. So, you should try to bring out the love that is within you. You will not get this love outside.

Embodiments of Love!

Swami has just come for a short while. I have not got the complete satisfaction of coming to Mumbai. I will come again. Cultivate love. Revere your parents. Make them happy. Then I will be with you always. Live a life of love.

Dharmakshetra, 1 June 2001



॥ समस्त लोका सुखिनो भवंतु॥







Listen to the primeval Pranav AUM resounding in your heart as well as in the heart of the Universe



Remember the Wheel of Cause and Consequence, of Deed and Destiny and the Wheel of Dharma that rights them all.



Offer all bitterness in the Sacred Fire and emerge Grand, Great and Godly.



Be like the Star which never wavers from the Crescent but is fixed in Steady Faith.



Cut the 'I' feeling clean across and let your ego die on the Cross, to endow on you Eternity.